



Appropriations Update

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus
U.S. House of Representatives
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FISCAL YEAR 2006 SCIENCE, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, JUSTICE, AND COMMERCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL – H.R. 2862 Conference Report

SUMMARY

The conference report accompanying the appropriations bill for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and Related Agencies (H.R.2862; H.Rept. 109-272) provides \$57.854 billion in new budget authority for fiscal year 2006, an amount equal to applicable levels recently adopted by the House Appropriations Committee. Consequently, the agreement complies with the provision of the Congressional Budget Act that prohibits consideration of a conference report that exceeds its suballocation.

The agreement, filed in the House on 7 November 2005, also complies with other provisions of the budget resolution,

such as those governing advance appropriations and emergency-designated appropriations, neither of which are provided in this legislation.

This is the seventh appropriations conference report for the fiscal year beginning 1 October 2005 to be filed. It reflects the House's reorganization of Appropriations subcommittees that was adopted early this year. As a result, it includes funds for the Department of State that were not included in the companion Senate appropriations measure (the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies appropriations bill).

COST OF THE LEGISLATION

As noted, the bill provides \$57.854 billion in budget authority [BA] for fiscal year 2006. This amount is under the administration request by \$2.76 billion (4.5 percent) in BA, and \$686 million (1.2 percent) in outlays. Relative to 2005, however, the bill provides an increase of \$477 million in BA and \$1.239 billion in outlays.

The reduction from the request results largely from not including the administration's proposal to relocate the Community Development Block Grants program from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Commerce. Had this been included, the bill would be \$948 million in BA above the request.

Table 1: Science, the Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies
(fiscal years; millions of dollars)

	2005 Spending ^a	Administration 2006	302 (b) for 2006	Bill
Budget Authority	57,377	60,616	57,854	57,854
Outlays	57,298	59,223	58,856	58,537

^a Excludes emergency-designated appropriations.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

As noted above, the bill complies with provisions of the Congressional Budget Act because it is consistent with the appropriate levels in the budget resolution. Enactment of this legislation also would not cause the budgetary totals for budget authority and outlays set by the budget resolution to

be exceeded, so would not violate that provision of the Budget Act (section 311). It contains no advance appropriations or emergency-designated spending, the use of which are governed by the budget resolution – and hence also complies with H.Con.Res. 95.

(continued on next page)

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. It has not been approved by the full committee and may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

Table 2: Discretionary Spending in Science, Department of State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies Conference Report
(in millions of dollars)

	2005 Budget Authority ^a	2005 Outlays ^a	2006 Budget Authority	2006 Outlays	Difference BA	Difference Outlays
Department of Commerce	6,306	5,897	6,409	6,250	103	353
Department of Justice	20,142	20,833	19,845	21,473	-297	640
Department of State	8,041	8,251	8,901	8,631	860	380
National Science Foundation	5,473	5,469	5,654	5,354	181	-115
NASA	16,070	15,512	16,483	15,872	413	360
Small Business Administration	610	701	540	844	-70	143
Other	<u>735</u>	<u>635</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>-713</u>	<u>-522</u>
Total	57,377	57,298	57,854	58,537	477	1,239

^a Excludes emergency-designated appropriations.

DISCUSSION

As shown in Table 2, the total cost of the bill is \$477 million above the 2005 levels for the discretionary programs it funds. The agreement, however, includes \$1.389 billion worth of saving from changes in mandatory programs that offset discretionary appropriations, which are not included in the 2005 amounts. On a comparable basis, discretionary programs funded by the bill receive an increase of \$1.866 billion in BA (3.3 percent) above 2005 levels.

The primary change in mandatory programs in the bill consists of the annual limitation of payments from the Crime Victims Fund, which is set at \$625 million for fiscal year 2006. This limit provides an offset of \$1.246 billion in BA for 2006; the funds will be available again in 2007. A rescission to the Assets Forfeiture Fund (\$102 million) accounts for nearly all of the remaining difference.

Another \$397 million in savings comes from a combination of rescissions of unobligated balances in specific programs (\$226 million), and a 0.28-percent across-the-board cut (\$171 million). The largest program-specific rescissions are from the Office of Justice Programs (\$111 million) and Community Oriented Policing Services (\$87 million).

All the savings mentioned occurred in the Department of Justice and as such give the appearance in Table 2 that the Department received \$297 million less funding in 2006 than in 2005. Adjusting for these differences, the Department's funding is \$1.051 billion above the prior year.

Increases in Security and Exchange Commission fee revenue account for most of the decrease attributable to other agencies and commissions.

Other noteworthy components of the bill include the following:

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation receives \$5.7 billion, an increase of \$597 million above 2005 and \$41 million above the President's request.
- The Drug Enforcement Administration receives \$1.7 billion, an increase of \$55 million above 2005 and \$8 million below the President's request.
- The United States Marshals Service receives \$793 million, an increase of \$51 million above fiscal year 2005, and \$3 million above the President's request.
- The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives receives \$924 million, an increase of \$46 million above 2005, and the same as the request.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, within the Department of Commerce, receives \$3.9 billion, a \$83 million decrease relative to 2005, and \$313 million above the request.
- Diplomatic and Consular Programs at the Department of State receive \$4.4 billion, which is \$198 million above the 2005 level, and \$103 million below the request.
- The bill includes \$1.5 billion, or \$5 million over 2005, for the Department of State to continue worldwide security improvements and replacement of vulnerable embassies as authorized by the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act.

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